

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03075 150115Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EUR-12 HA-05 /083 W
-----024598 151858Z /50

R 140829Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 473
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, KS, US
SUBJ: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, APRIL 14

REF: SEOUL 3023 (DTG 130804Z APR 78)

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE/BUGGING ALLEGATIONS. CONTINUED
LARGE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE EMPHASIZING COMMITTEE'S DEMAND FOR
WRITTEN CLARIFICATION OF BLUE HOUSE BUGGING ISSUE. PRESS NOTES
DCM STERN MET MOFA VICE MIN YI MUN-YONG 4/13 AND CITES
"HIGH MOFA SOURCES" CONFIRMING US WILL DELIVER WRITTEN REPLY
EXPRESSING REGRET OVER BUGGING ISSUE EARLY NEXT WEEK. SEVERAL
EDITORIALS COMMENT ON COMMITTEE MEETING AND GENERAL US-ROK
RELATIONS. HANKUK ILBO CLAIMS FRIENDLY ROK FEELING TOWARD
US WEAKENING DUE TO "AMERICAN BIG POWER TYRANNY". TONGA ILBO
COMMENTS DENUNCIATIONS OF US IN COMMITTEE ARE "UNDERSTANDABLE"
BECAUSE OF BUILT-UP DISCONTENT WITH CARTER KOREAN POLICY AND
URGES SPEEDY RESTORATION OF GOOD RELATIONS. CHUNGANG ILBO
AGREES WITH AMB'S CONCEPT OF CHANGING US-ROK RELATIONS
TOWARD MORE EQUAL RELATIONSHIP BASED ON REALITY AND COMMON
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INTERESTS. SEOUL SINMUN STATES MATTER COULD BE SIMPLY
SOLVED BY US SAYING "I'M SORRY".

2. CEAUSESCU. LARGE FRONTPAGE WIRE REPORTS SAY KOREAN
QUESTION WAS DISCUSSED DURING CARTER-CEAUSESCU MEETING
BUT NOTE KOREA NOT MENTIONED IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE. REUTERS
QUOTES WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN SAYING "I HAVE NO EVIDENCE

TO SUPPORT SPECULATIVE REPORTS THAT CEAUSESCU
CARRIED MESSAGE FROM NORTH KOREA'S KIM IL-SONG". SEOUL
SHINMUN CARRIED EXCERPTS 4/14 TELEPHONE INTERVIEW
WITH WH DEP RESS SECY SHECTER SAYING, "KOREA WAS
DISCUSSED...I CAN'T REVEAL ANY DETAILS...I HAVE NO
INFORMATION TO SUPPORT MEDIA REPORTS CEAUSESCU BROUGHT
KIM IL-SONG MESSAGE..US POSITION IS TO SUPPORT ANY
FORM OF CONFERENCE WHICH COULD CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE ON
KOREAN PENINSULA WITH ROK PARTICIPATION".

3. DEMONSTRATIONS. ALL PRESS CONTINUE MODERATE TO LARGE
PAGE 7 COVERAGE OF CONTINUING ANTI-BUGGING DEMONSTRATIONS
INCLUDING "THOUSANDS" OF STUDENTS IN MANY CITIES THROUGHOUT
THE NATION.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SURVEILLANCE, ALLEGATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL03075
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780162-1015
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780454/aaaabtxx.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3b9701b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SEOUL 3023
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2961589
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, APRIL 14
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, PGOV, KS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b9701b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014